GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1304
ANSWERED ON:24.07.2017
Illicit Trade
Kamal Nath Shri ;Scindia Shri Jyotiraditya Madhavrao

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether several trade organizations including the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FICCI) have urged the Government to take adequate steps to tackle the menace of illicit trade in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto;

(c) whether the Government has assessed the estimated loss to industries/sectors due to illicit trade; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Government to check the menace of illicit trade?

Answer

???????? ??? ?????? ???????????? (????????? ??????)(??????? ??????? ???????)
THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE)
OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY
(SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN)

(a) & (b): Government agencies receive information alleging illicit trade of various items from various sources from time to time. The Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry has also come out with a report titled 'Invisible Enemy − A threat to our National Interests: Extent, Causes and Remedies'. Some of the suggestions contained in the report are already part of continuous improvement process undertaken by the government from time to time as per the information received from the Department of Revenue.

(c) & (d): Illicit trade being an illegal activity, no accurate assessment is possible. The field formations handling such matters are sensitized through a number of Alert/Modus Operandi Circulars to take necessary action under the provisions of the Customs Act, 1962.

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